



# CITY OF SWEET HOME CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

May 27, 2025, 6:30 PM  
Sweet Home City Hall, 3225 Main Street  
Sweet Home, OR 97386

## Mission Statement

The City of Sweet Home will work to build an economically strong community with an efficient and effective local government that will provide infrastructure and essential services to the citizens we serve. As efficient stewards of the valuable assets available, we will be responsive to the community while planning and preparing for the future.

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## Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

## Roll Call

### PRESENT

Mayor Susan Coleman  
President Pro Tem Josh Thorstad  
Councilor Chelsea Augsburger  
Councilor Ken Bronson  
Councilor Aaron Hegge  
Councilor Dylan Richards  
Councilor Angelita Sanchez

### STAFF

Jason Ogden, City Manager / Police Chief  
Cecily Hope Pretty, Deputy City Manager  
Angela Clegg, Planning & Building Manager  
Megan Dazey, Library Services Director  
Blair Larsen, City Attorney  
Adam Leisinger, Special Projects Manager  
Greg Springman, Public Works Director

### GUESTS

Gary Jarvis, 2941 Foothills Drive, Sweet Home, OR 97386  
Frank Gallagher, 1420 First Avenue, Sweet Home, OR 97386

## Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes:

- a) 2025-05-13 City Council Executive Session Minutes
- b) 2025-05-13 City Council Meeting Minutes

President Pro Tem Thorstad moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilor Richards second the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburger, Bronson, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez  
NAY: None

## **Recognition of Visitors & Hearing of Petitions**

Gary Jarvis stated that vacant buildings had been a local concern for over a decade with no resolution and noted that private homeowners were subject to fines if they did not comply with City regulations so City Council should consider fines for vacant buildings. He noted that the land value of the current former City Hall site should be an important component of the discussion with what to do with the building.

## **Old Business**

- a) Request for Council Action – Resolution No. 11 for 2025 – Amending Resolution No. 21 for 2024 & Implementing Permanent Traffic Control Devices on First Avenue

City Manager Ogden reviewed the history of potential temporary traffic control devices on First Avenue as directed by City Council through Resolution No. 21 for 2024. He noted that there was City Council consensus at a prior Work Session to amend the resolution to allow for permanent asphalt speed hump solutions rather than temporary speed humps.

Councilor Augsburger asked of changing First Avenue from single-sided parking to double-sided parking. City Attorney Larsen replied that it was for traffic calming purposes.

Councilor Richards moved to approve Resolution No. 11 for 2025. Councilor Sanchez seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburger, Bronson, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

Mayor Coleman recognized Frank Gallagher, Chair of the Public & Traffic Safety Committee.

Mr. Gallagher thanked the City Council and City Manager for their approval of the traffic calming devices to enhance quality of life for First Avenue residents.

## **New Business**

There was no new business to be heard.

## **Ordinance Bills**

Request for Council Action and First Reading of Ordinance Bills

- a) Request for Council Action – Ordinance No. 5 for 2025 – Pacific Power Franchise Agreement

City Manager Ogden stated that the City's current franchise agreement was due to expire in September 2025 and that the proposed Ordinance continues many of the existing terms, including a 10-year term, 5% revenue to the City, non-exclusive rights, and placing responsibility for damage and utility relocation on Pacific Power.

Councilor Sanchez asked of the revenue percentage compared to other cities. City Manager Ogden replied that 5% appeared to be the standard rate for other cities and he found none that were higher.

Committee Member Richards moved to conduct a first reading of Ordinance No. 5 for 2025. President Pro Tem Thorstad seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburger, Bronson, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

A first reading of Ordinance No. 5 for 2025 was conducted.

Second Reading of Ordinance Bills

Councilor Bronson moved to conduct a second reading of Ordinance No. 5 for 2025 by title only. Councilor Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburger, Bronson, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

President Pro Tem Thorstad moved to conduct a third reading of Ordinance No. 5 for 2025 by title only at the following City Council meeting. Councilor Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburg, Bronson, Hegge, Richards, Sanchez

NAY: None

Third Reading of Ordinance Bills (Roll Call Vote Required)

- a) Request for Council Action – Ordinance No. 2 for 2025 – Ordinance No. 1333 – Adopting Camping Regulations

President Pro Tem Thorstad moved to approve Ordinance No. 2 for 2025. Councilor Bronson seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Coleman, Thorstad, Augsburg, Bronson, Hegge, Richards

NAY: Sanchez

### **Reports of Committees**

Administration, Finance & Property Committee – President Pro Tem Thorstad

Charter Review Committee – President Pro Tem Thorstad

Community Health Committee – Councilor Bronson

Library Advisory Board – Councilor Augsburg

- a) 2025-05-08 Library Board Meeting Minutes

Park & Tree Committee – Councilor Hegge

Planning Commission

Public & Traffic Safety Committee – President Pro Tem Thorstad & Councilor Richards

Area Commission on Transportation – Councilor Sanchez, Councilor Bronson (alternate)

Chamber of Commerce – Councilor Hegge

Council of Governments – Councilor Bronson, Councilor Sanchez (alternate)

Solid Waste Advisory Council – Councilor Richards

Councilor Hegge stated that Park & Tree Committee discussed the success of the Arbor Day celebration. He recognized the work of the Beautification Committee and Public Works for their plantings and noted volunteer opportunities were available. He highlighted the upcoming Jim Bean Safety Fair and the Chamber of Commerce's Cut the Gut.

Mayor Coleman recognized the Public & Traffic Safety Committee for their work on First Avenue.

### **Department Reports**

Police Chief

- a) Police Chief Report – April 2025

City Manager Ogden stated that Officer Tylier Mendenhall, who was recently sworn in, was now at the Police Academy. He noted that there were currently two vacant positions, and the Police Department was actively recruiting. He added that the Traffic Safety Officer had been temporarily reassigned to patrol to provide coverage. He noted increases in crimes across several categories that tended to coincide with improved weather annually.

## **Reports of City Officials**

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Ogden thanked the community for their renewed support of the Police and Library Levies and their trust in staff. He stated that staff had officially begun the process to pursue historic redesignation of the Weddle Bridge which may take approximately a year. He highlighted the recent Nandina Street repaving project and recognized Blake Patterson, Engineering Technician for Public Works, for acting as the City's project manager. He showed a video of the before and after conditions on Nandina produced by Adam Leisinger, Special Projects Manager.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Coleman recognized the quality of the work on Nandina. She highlighted the upcoming Santiam Smoke Show, the Farmers Market on Tuesdays, and the Community Market on Saturdays.

### **Council Business for Good of the Order**

Councilor Bronson highlighted the Best of the West Triathlon the first weekend of June and noted there was a free shuttle between Sunnyside Park and Lewis Creek for spectators.

Councilor Sanchez thanked the voters of Sweet Home for their approval of the levies and the Charter amendment for direct election of the Mayor.

Councilor Richards stated that he toured the water treatment plant and wastewater treatment plant recently and asked that City Council investigate the removal of the City's fluoride system. There was consensus to place it on a future agenda for discussion.

Mayor Coleman stated that she had been contacted by residents regarding Ziply and asked staff for an update on their activities. City Manager Ogden stated that they utilized various contractors and had received complaints about spray painting in the rights-of-way. He added that the public was free to contact staff to verify the status of their permits.

Councilor Bronson asked what service Ziply provides. City Manager Ogden replied that they provide fiber optic services for internet. Councilor Bronson asked of the status of their work. Deputy City Manager Pretty replied that they were in the permitting process and were conducting utility markings for those permits that had been approved.

Councilor Augsburg asked of the markings on sidewalks and whether Ziply would replace any damaged infrastructure. Deputy City Manager Pretty replied that under the franchise agreement, Ziply would be required to replace any infrastructure within the right-of-way to current conditions.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 PM.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder